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To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 12/14/01 2:43pm
Subject: Giving away intellectual property

Some of the states have suggested that Microsoft be forced to share its source code for Office and Internet Explorer, among other remedies, in punishment for its recent "conviction" for anti-trust violations. My opinion: BAD!!

Microsoft should NOT be forced to disclose the "secret formula" which it has spent BILLIONS of dollars and MILLIONS of man-years to develop. The purpose of any remedies should NOT be to "punish" Microsoft for the alleged offenses (I still don't believe their conviction is valid, but. . .) but to set guidelines to control any future "abuses".

The "reveal your source code" solution is the equivalent of disemboweling someone for running a red light: effective (in that the person is unlikely to run any more red lights) but excessive (obviously).